

Household Food Insecurity Network Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Household Food Insecurity Network exists to provide support to Dietitians of Canada members who are interested or involved in household food insecurity (HFI) and poverty reduction work by facilitating access to practice tools and resources, professional education, and networking opportunities.

The 2016 Dietitians of Canada HFI publications are used as the basis for how the network defines and addresses HFI. The papers are:

- [Prevalence, Severity and Impact of Household Food Insecurity: A Serious Public Health Issue Background paper](#) (Aug 2016)
- [Addressing Household Food Insecurity in Canada: Position and Recommendations from Dietitians of Canada](#) (Aug 2016)
- [DC Website - Dietitians Take Action on Household Food Insecurity](#)

Goals

- Facilitate communication and knowledge sharing amongst network members
- Support an HFI-focused national dialogue that is evidence-based and relevant to dietitians in all areas of practice
- Be an identified resource group supporting DC advocacy on issues related to the network purpose
- Promote understanding and awareness of the unique experience of HFI amongst Indigenous peoples and the importance of including Indigenous ways of knowing
- Promote understanding and awareness of the unique experiences of HFI amongst populations experiencing systemic inequities impacting health within the Canadian context

Accountability

The Network is accountable to its members to meet network goals by providing:

- A networking forum for DC members, including online discussion, sharing written resources, supporting advocacy, and recordings of past education opportunities
- Current educational opportunities through webinars, facilitated conversations, and sessions at the annual DC Conference
- Annual report presented at the AGM
- Annual budget and transparent financial records

DC Communication

As required, the DC Management Team may seek network input on issues within the network's area of expertise. The Chair(s) of the network will seek input from network members when possible.

Membership

All DC members and Student members of DC are eligible for membership in the network. Non-members of DC are not eligible for membership; however they may be invited at the discretion of the Network Executive to participate in network activities. Fees will be determined by DC with a tiered approach for full members and students.

Executive Positions:

- Chair, Vice Chair (or two Co-Chairs), Past Chair, Secretary, Communications Coordinator, Treasurer, Education Coordinator, Regional Representatives from across Canada, and Student Representative(s).
- Areas of responsibility include working towards achievement of the stated network goals. See [roles and responsibilities](#) document for further details.
- All executive members must be network members and volunteer for the position for ideally a two-year term with option to renew.